

Attorney Docket No. O/98414 US

In the Specification

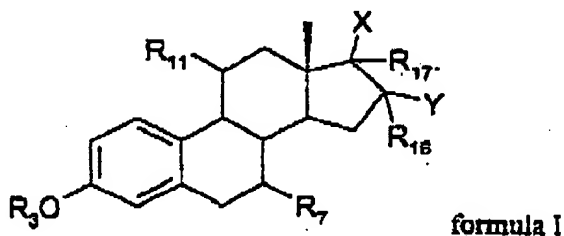
Applicant respectfully requests that before page 1, line 4, the following be inserted:

This application is a national stage filing of PCT EP99/09053 filed under 35 USC section 371 on November 18, 1999, and from which priority is claimed under 35 USC sections 119(a)-(d).

In the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition having ER $\alpha$  agonist activity and having ER $\beta$  antagonist activity, comprising:

a steroid compound satisfying the following structural formula:



wherein:

one of X and Y is OH, the other being H;

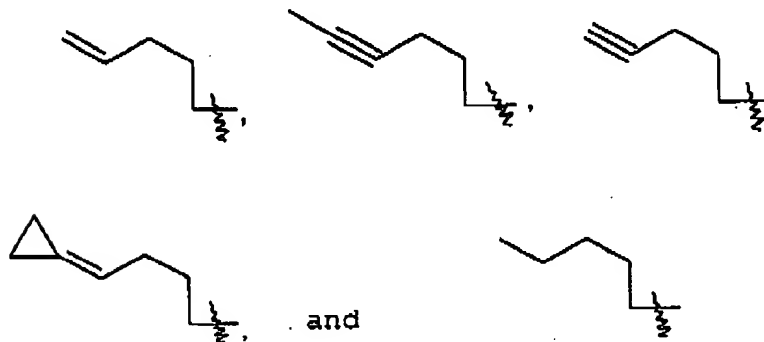
R<sub>3</sub> is H or COR'<sub>3</sub>, with R'<sub>3</sub> being alkyl or aryl;

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R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>16</sub>, and R<sub>17</sub> each independently are H, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl; R<sub>11</sub> is a hydrocarbon group, which may be linear or branched, comprising one single linear chain having a length of from 5 to 9 carbon atoms as the longest chain on carbon atom no. 11 of the steroid skeleton, wherein said chain may be saturated or unsaturated, and

a pharmaceutical acceptable auxiliary.

2. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>11</sub> is selected from the following group of side-chain structures selected from the group consisting of



3. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the longest chain in R<sub>11</sub> comprises 5-7 carbon atoms.

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4. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein the longest chain in R<sub>11</sub> comprises 5 carbon atoms.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Canceled).

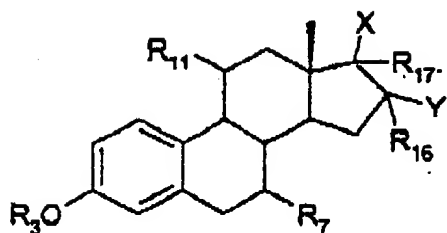
7. (Previously Presented) A method for treating estrogen deficiency disorders, comprising:

administering to a patient afflicted with an estrogen deficiency disorder an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of treating estrogen deficiency disorders by inducing ER $\alpha$  agonist activity and ER $\beta$  antagonist activity in a patient in need thereof, comprising:

administering an therapeutically effective amount of a steroid compound satisfying the following structural formula:

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formula I

wherein:

one of X and Y is OH, the other being H;

R<sub>3</sub> is H or COR'<sub>3</sub>, with R'<sub>3</sub> being alkyl or aryl;

R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>16</sub>, and R<sub>17</sub> each independently are H, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl;

R<sub>11</sub> is a hydrocarbon group, which may be linear or branched, comprising one single linear chain having a length of from 5 to 9 carbon atoms as the longest chain on carbon atom no. 11 of the steroid skeleton, wherein said chain may be saturated or unsaturated.

9. (Canceled).

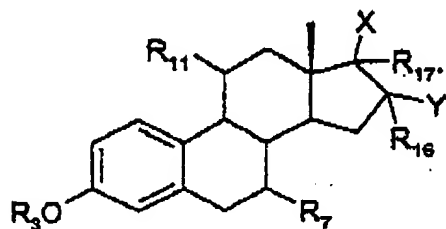
10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Canceled).

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13. (Previously Presented) A steroid compound having ER $\alpha$  agonist activity and having ER $\beta$  antagonist activity and satisfying the following structural formula:



formula I

wherein:

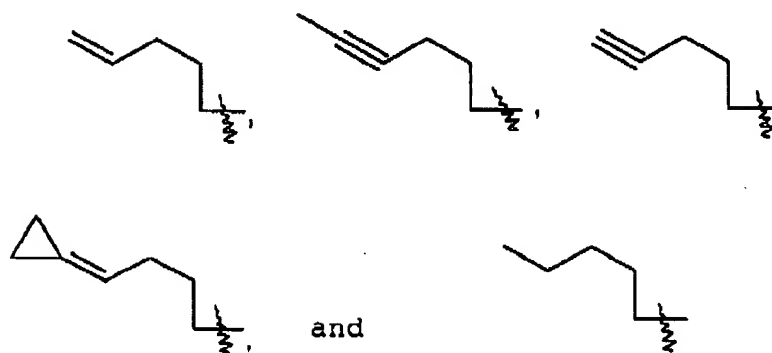
one of X and Y is OH, the other being H;

R<sub>3</sub> is H or COR'<sub>3</sub>, with R'<sub>3</sub> being alkyl or aryl;

R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>16</sub>, and R<sub>17</sub> each independently are H, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl; R<sub>11</sub> is a hydrocarbon group, which may be linear or branched, comprising one single linear chain having a length of from 5 to 9 carbon atoms as the longest chain on carbon atom no. 11 of the steroid skeleton, wherein said chain may be saturated or unsaturated.

14. (Previously Presented) The steroid compound according to claim 13, wherein  $R_{11}$  is selected from the following group of side-chain structures selected from the group consisting of

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15. (Previously Presented) The steroid compound according to claim 13, wherein the longest chain in R<sub>11</sub> comprises 5-7 carbon atoms.

16. (Previously Presented) The steroid compound according to claim 15, wherein the longest chain in R<sub>11</sub> comprises 5 carbon atoms.